THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

Christian Knöpfle et al.

EXAMINER:

Philogene, Pedro

SERIAL NO.:

09/921,233

GROUP ART UNIT: 3732

FILED:

August 1, 2001

ATTY DOCK. NO.: 60,500-072

FOR:

SELF-RETAINING IMPLANT AND A DEVICE FOR SECURING

THE IMPLANT

AMENDMENT

ATTENTION: MAILSTOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 1, 2004, Paper No. 06252004, please amend the claims as follows and consider the accompanying remarks. This amendment has been prepared in accordance with the amendment format of 37 CFR §1.121 to place the application in condition for allowance.